the Government of India sends us that stuff we shall indeed find it rather difficult to get over our present situation. And we have impressed on the Government of India that the foodstuffs are intended for our immediate local consumption and not for any other purpose, and I think that the idea is now weighing with the Government of India.

Purchase of Rice from Sind, Baluchistan and the Punjab.

2 *MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state whether any State Rice Officer was deputed for the purchase of rice in Sind, Baluchistan or the Punjab as at Tanjore?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes; in Sind and in the Punjab.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know the names of the officers so appointed?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Mr. Mohammed Sahib was sent to Sind and Mr. Chandrasekharan was on duty in the Punjab.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Was there any separate State representative in the Punjab while Mr. Rangaswami Aiyangar was on duty in Tanjore?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Mr. Chandrasekharan was representing both Cochin and Travancore in the Punjab.

Rice Mills.

3 *MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state the reason for prohibiting the operation of rice mills in Travancore?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: The attention of the honourable member is invited to the Press Note dated 2nd February 1943 issued by the Government on the subject.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether the honourable member refers to the Press Note dated 1st February, 1943 in this connection?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: No, Sir. It is an entirely different Press Note, which gives categorical reasons why the rice mills were closed down.

Kayal Poramboke for Punja Cultivation.

4 *MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have any definite idea of the actual area of Kayal poramboke both North and South Travancore to be thrown open for Punja cultivation?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer is in the negative. The matter is under investigation.

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